

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

GAC-01 ACDA-19 RSR-01 /111 W
----- 027150

R 241806 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 470

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY ROME

USEC BRUSSELS UNN

USNATO BRUSSELS 2935

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 14551

SUMMARY: UK EMBASSY OFFICER DESCRIBED ATMOSPHERE OF POMPIDOU- HEATH MEETING AS CORDIAL. POMPIDOU AND HEATH AGREED IT WAS TOO EARLY TO DECIDE ON WHETHER TO HOLD US- EC SUMMIT THIS FALL, BUT DOOR TO SUMMIT REMAINS OPEN. BOTH BRITISH PM AND FRENCH PRESIDENT HAD " SEMANTIC" DIFFICULTY IN ACCEPTING " ATLANTIC CHARTER" BUT BOTH SEEMED WILLING TO CONSIDER A " STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES" GOVERNING FUTURE TRANS- ATLANTIC RELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. UK EMBASSY OFFICER GAVE US FOLLOWING RUNDOWN ON MAY 21 - 22 POMPIDOU HEATH SUMMIT MEETING.

2. ATMOSPHERE. MEETINGS WERE HELD IN EXTREMELY CORDIAL ATMOSPHERE WITH LARGE PORTIONS DEVOTED TO TET- A- TET CONVERSATIONS. BOTH FRENCH AND BRITS WERE CONSCIOUSLY CONFIDENTIAL

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SEEKING DEVELOP SENSE OF " NATURALNESS" RE UK- FRENCH SUMMITS
IN ORDER PROMOTE MORE FREQUENT MEETINGS BUT WITHOUT BUILDING
A FORMAL STRUCTURE SUCH AS EXISTS IN FRENCH- GERMAN FRAMEWORK.

3. US- EC SUMMIT. FRENCH AND BRITS AGREED THAT DECISION
ON WHETHER TO HOLD US- EC SUMMIT THIS FALL WAS " PREMATURE."
UK EMBOFF EMPHASIZED THIS MEANT DOOR TO SUMMIT MEETING
REMAINED OPEN. HE SAID BOTH POMPIDOU AND HEATH BELIEVED
FINAL DECISION ON WHETHER TO GO FOR SUMMIT DEPENDED ON
-(A) FURTHER CLARIFICATIONS FROM US RE " YEAR OF EUROPE" AND
(B) ABILITY OF EUROPEANS TO DEVELOP UNIFIED POSITIONS ON KEY
MONETARY AND TRADE ISSUES BEFORE ANY FALL SUMMIT.

4. REVITALIZED ATLANTIC RELATIONSHIP - ATLANTIC CHARTER.
UK EMBOFF SAID BOTH POMPIDOU AND HEATH HAD DIFFICULTY
WITH " ATLANTIC CHARTER" CONCEPT. HE OPINED THAT DIFFICULTIES
WERE IN PART SEMANTIC. THUS PHRASE " CHARTER" WAS NOT ACCEPTABLE
TO EITHER BRITS OR FRENCH BECAUSE IN THEIR MINDS IT CARRIED
CONNOTATION OF SOME FORM OF " TRANS- ATLANTIC STRUCTURE".
HOWEVER, HE COMMENTED THAT BOTH FRENCH AND UK WOULD BE
AMENABLE TO CONSIDERING A " STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES" TO GOVERN
FUTURE TRANS- ATLANTIC RELATIONS. UK EMBOSS SAID IT WAS
CLEAR POMPIDOU DID NOT THEREFORE CLOSE THE DOOR TO THE IDEA
OF REVIEWING THE TRANS- ATLANTIC RELATIONSHIP IN LIGHT OF
CHANGED CIRCUMSTANCES.

5. UK EMBOFF ADDED BOTH FRENCH AND BRITISH CONCERN RE
CHARTER CONCEPT WAS RELATED IN PART TO TIMING. BOTH
BRITS AND FRENCH BELIEVED THAT EVEN CONSIDERING CREATION OF
TRANS- ATLANTIC STRUCTURE BEFORE MORE DEFINITIVE DEVELOPMENT
OF A " EUROPEAN UNION" COULD UNDERMINE DEVELOPMENT OF EUROPEAN
COHESIVENESS BY CREATING A MAJOR EXTRA- EUROPEAN POLE OF
ATTRACTION FOR EUROPEAN STATES. EMBOFF REPEATED US HAD
NOT RPT NOT PROPOSED THE DEVELOPMENT OF A " TRANS- ATLANTIC
STRUCTURE."

6. DEFENSE. UK EMBOFF SAID HE WAS UNAWARE OF ANY
DISCUSSION OF DEFENSE QUESTIONS BUT COULD NOT BE
CERTAIN THAT SUBJECT DID NOT ARISE IN GENERAL TERMS
DURING TET- A- TETE CONVERSATIONS.

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7. COMMENT: UK EMBOFF' S REMARKS REINFORCE OUR BELIEF
THAT PRESIDENT POMPIDOU WILL NOT MAKE FINAL DETERMINATION
ON HOW TO REACT TO " YEAR OF EUROPE" PROPOSAL UNTIL HE
MEETS WITH PRESIDENT NIXON.
IRWIN

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NMAFVVZCZ

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To: BONN
BRUSSELS
COPENHAGEN
DUBLIN
EUR
LONDON
LUXEMBOURG

SECSTATE WASHDC
THE HAGUE

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